

GREENSBORO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, March 3, 2024 | 3rd Sunday in Lent, Communion Sunday

Hal Parker, Music Director

Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters, Pastor

Prelude

solo piano, Hal

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

One: Into the house of God we are called to enter,

Many: to worship and receive again the gift of grace.

One: As we step towards this sacred space,

Many: we acknowledge all that can distract or exploit.

One: God calls upon us to cleanse our houses of all that does not find its source in God's love.

Many: Together we give ourselves in worship and right relations with our neighbor.

Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

***Gloria Patri #36**

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Hymn: #238 (Songs of Spirit)**

The Church's One Foundation

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, there are times when we choose to bring our folly and the many reckless ways of exploiting the poor into your house. Sometimes without our even knowing it. And so, when our houses of worship need change or when we have wandered from your ways, help us to turn towards you. Not because of what we can gain from you, but because your love is a gift unearned and unwavering. Grant us your grace, in the name of Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Scripture

John 2:13-22

Hal Gray

Anthem

"When Jesus Wept" by William Billings (1746-1800)
America's 1st choral composer

Sermon

Overturing Tables and Raising Up a Temple

Rev. Ed Sunday-Winters

A Time of Silence

Offertory

** Those who are able, please stand.*

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

O God, whose richness is not found at the tables of those willing to exchange goods for the sake of acquiring earthly riches, but rather is found at the table of extravagant love for neighbor, we entrust these gifts to your care that they may abound in your steadfast love for all persons. Use them for the building of your beloved community here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Communion

***Hymn: #317 (Songs of Spirit)** Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever.



***Hymn: #474 (Songs of Spirit)**

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

***Benediction**

***Musical Benediction #334 (Songs of Spirit), Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name, verse 2**

Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
With thee began, with thee shall end the day;
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon thy name.

Postlude

solo organ, Hal

Our Church's Wider Mission: As we support Our Church's Wider Mission, we lift up the work of the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Service (CEOSS) with the poor and marginalized communities in Egypt. CEOSS holds children's activities, including how to face harassment, puts together medical eye convoys, and provides supplies to schoolchildren. Children learn skills and tools and are able to be involved in child protection initiatives, attending seminars, training and advocate spaces.

PARISH NEWS:

COFFEE HOUR: Please join us after Sunday service for refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is Sunday, March 10

Scripture Readers: We need scripture readers for Sunday worship. Please sign at the passthrough in Fellowship Hall.

Lenten Reading: *The Wall Between: What Jews and Palestinians Don't Want to Know about Each Other*, By Raja Khouri and Jeffrey Wilkinson. Discussion held on 3 Thursday evenings beginning at Feb 29 at 7pm, in-person and online.

Greensboro Free Library Annual Chili Dinner: Friday March 15, from 5-7 pm in Fellowship Hall, dinner by donation. Take the chill out of winter!

Save the Date: "Just Getting By: A Day In the Life" a documentary on Vermonters struggling with food and housing insecurity, Highland Center for the Arts April 4 at 7 pm.

Peace Vigil: Wednesday mornings from 7:45- 8:30 am at the Hardwick Peace Park. We are horrified by the violence on both sides. Join us in calling for an end to the bloodshed.

GUCC Directory: Have an edit? Send it to greensborochurchdirectory@gmail.com!

FELLOWSHIP HALL CLASS SCHEDULE:

- ☉ Bone Builders: Mon & Wed 10-11 am
- ☉ Global Campus: Tuesdays, 12-3pm
- ☉ TaiChi: Thurs, 9:15-10:30, 10:30-11:30 am
- ☉ Pilates: Tue & Thurs 4-5 pm

Greensboro Historical Society Meeting: March 3, 1-5 pm, FH

Parents Group: Wednesday, March 6, 11-1, classroom

Missions & Outreach Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 4-5 pm Library/Zoom

Church Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 6-7 pm, Library

Lenten Book Study: Thursday, March 7, 7-8 pm, Library/Zoom

One Great Hour of Sharing: Sunday, March 10, 10 am

Next Week's Lectionary: Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

Greensboro United Church of Christ *An Open and Affirming Congregation*

Greensboro, Vermont

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To Our Visitors

If you are new among us, welcome!

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here.*

You are invited to become a part of our life together.

*Our goal is to be a loving and caring church,
and we hope you feel this*

*Please help us to know you by introducing yourself,
filling out a green pew card, and joining us in
fellowship following the service*

May you go forth refreshed by the Spirit here.

Our Mission: To love as Jesus loved, caring for others and joyfully serving God, our community and our world.

Worship During COVID: Masking is now optional

- *Stay home if you are ill (even a little)*
- *Distance from others around you*